

REMARKS

Claims 18-34 are pending and under consideration. In the Final Office Action of June 14, 2005, the Examiner made the following disposition:

- A.) Objected to the amendment dated 1/24/2005 under 35 U.S.C. §132(a).
- B.) Rejected claims 18-31 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph.
- C.) Rejected claims 18-31 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.
- D.) Rejected claim 1 [sic] under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by *Faris*.
- E.) Rejected claims 24-25 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Faris* in view of *Verhulst*.
- F.) Rejected claims 30-34 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Faris* in view of *Yuasa, et al.*

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections and address the Examiner disposition below.

A.) Objection to the amendment dated 1/24/2005 under 35 U.S.C. §132(a):

Claims 18, 30, and 31 have been amended as per the Examiner's request to overcome the rejection.

Applicants respectfully submit the rejection has been overcome and request that it be withdrawn.

B.) Rejection of claims 18-31 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph:

Claims 18, 30, and 31 have been amended as per the Examiner's request to overcome the rejection.

Claims 19-29 depend directly or indirectly from claim 18 and are therefore allowable for at least the same reasons that claim 18 is allowable.

Applicants respectfully submit the rejection has been overcome and request that it be withdrawn.

C.) Rejection of claims 18-31 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph:

Claims 18, 30, and 31 have been amended as per the Examiner's request to overcome the rejection.

Claims 19-29 depend directly or indirectly from claim 18 and are therefore allowable for at least the same reasons that claim 18 is allowable.

Applicants respectfully submit the rejection has been overcome and request that it be withdrawn.

D.) Rejection of claim 1 [sic] under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by *Faris*:

The Examiner rejected claim 1 as being anticipated by *Faris*, however, claim 1 is not pending in the application. Applicant addresses why claims 18-31 are not anticipated by *Faris* below.

Referring to Applicant's Figure 3 as an illustrative example, Applicant's independent claims 18, 30, and 31 each claim subject matter relating to a pair of shutters each having a function of shutting off an area covered by a viewing angle which corresponds to a display area of the display device. A linear polarization filter (e.g., 46) is disposed at one of a front and a rear surface of each of the shutters. A quarter-wavelength plate (e.g., 48) is disposed at a front surface of each of the shutters.

This is clearly unlike *Faris*, which fails to disclose or suggest Applicant's claimed linear polarization filter and a quarter-wavelength plate disposed at the claimed surfaces of the shutters. Referring to *Faris* figure 6, *Faris* teaches that its prior art includes a quarter-wave retarder 28 and a linear polarizer 29 that are positioned in front of a pair of spectacles 9. *Faris* teaches that it overcomes its prior art by replacing the quarter-wave retarder 28 and linear polarizer 29 with spectacles 9 that are shutters themselves (see *Faris* Figure 9). *Faris*'s spectacles 9 do not include quarter-wave retarders or linear polarizers.

Thus, unlike Applicant's claims 18, 30, and 31, *Faris* fails to disclose or suggest Applicant's claimed linear polarization filter and a quarter-wavelength plate disposed at the claimed surfaces of shutters.

Applicant respectfully submits the rejection based on *Faris* has been overcome and request that it be withdrawn.

E.) Rejection of claims 24-25 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Faris* in view of *Verhulst*:

Applicant respectfully disagrees with the rejection.

Claim 18 is allowable over *Faris* as discussed above. *Verhulst* still fails to disclose or suggest Applicant's claimed linear polarization filter and a quarter-wavelength plate disposed at the claimed surfaces of shutters. Instead, *Verhulst* merely teaches polarizers 15 and 22 disposed at opposite sides of a single liquid crystal 21. Therefore, *Faris* in view of *Verhulst* still fails to disclose or suggest claim 18.

Claims 24 and 25 depend directly or indirectly from claim 18 and are therefore allowable for at least the same reasons that claim 18 is allowable.

Applicant respectfully submits the rejection has been overcome and request that it be withdrawn.

F.) Rejection of claims 30-34 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Faris* in view of *Yuasa, et al.*:

Applicant respectfully disagrees with the rejection.

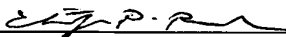
Claims 30 and 31 are allowable over *Faris* as discussed above. *Yuasa* still fails to disclose or suggest Applicant's claimed linear polarization filter and a quarter-wavelength plate disposed at the claimed surfaces of shutters. Instead, *Yuasa* merely discloses a single liquid crystal 17. Therefore, *Faris* in view of *Yuasa* still fails to disclose or suggest claims 30 and 31.

Claims 32-34 have been canceled.

Applicant respectfully submits the rejection has been overcome and request that it be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that claims 18-31 are patentable, and that the application is in condition for allowance. Notice to that effect is requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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